



Renton Shoreline Master Program Update

Public Hearing – October 21, 2009

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The Shoreline Management Act (SMA)

Adopted by the public in a 1972 referendum *“to prevent the inherent harm in an uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state’s shorelines.”*

The SMA incorporates four broad policies:

- Encourage water-dependent uses
- Protect shoreline natural resources
- Provide for restoration of ecological functions
- Promote public access



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SMA- Encourage Water Dependent Uses

- Non-residential uses are prioritized in the State law
- Water-oriented uses are required within the shoreline, but non water-oriented uses may earn a spot on the shoreline through provision of ecological restoration and public access



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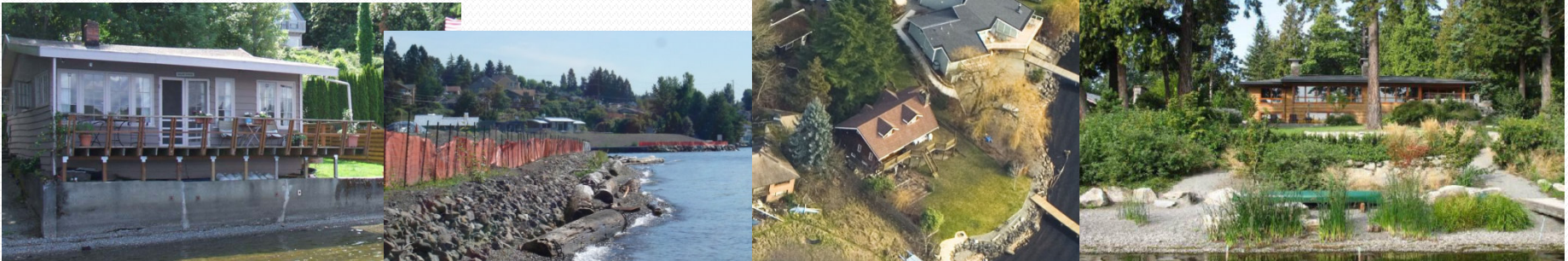
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SMA- Protect Shoreline Resources

- Goal is “no net-loss of ecological function”
- Vegetation conservation to protect shoreline functioning
- Encourage “soft” shoreline stabilization options that result in less impairment of the ecological function of the shoreline
- Ensure that critical area regulations (to protect streams, wetlands, wildlife habitat, etc.) are just as strong in the Shoreline area as in the rest of the City



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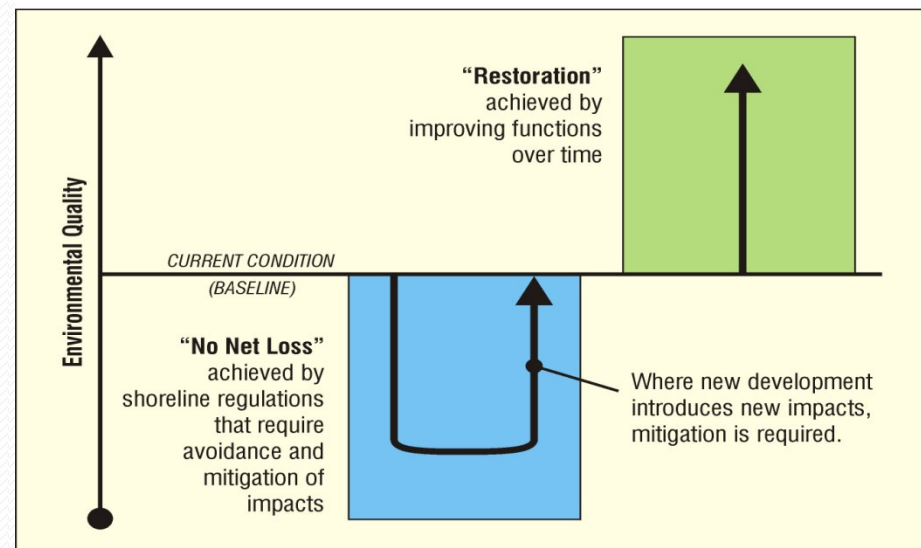
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SMA- Restoration of Ecological Function

- City must have policies and regulations in effect so that each project must mitigate its impact on shoreline function
- Even with project mitigation, there are cumulative impacts to the ecological function of the Shoreline that the City must analyze
- The City must prepare a Restoration Plan that improves ecological function over time

Two Distinct Objectives: No-Net Loss of Shoreline Ecological Functions and Restoration Over Time



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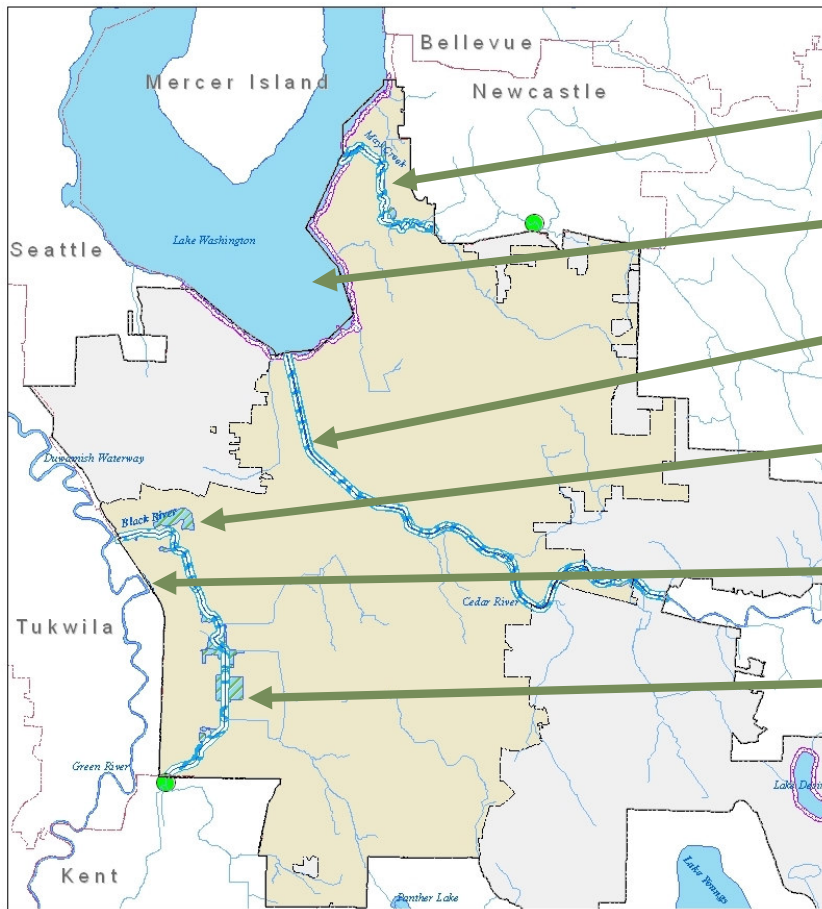
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Renton's Shoreline Jurisdiction



Where does the SMA Apply in Renton?

May Creek

Lake Washington

Cedar River

Black River

Green River

Springbrook Creek

Lake Desire (Renton's Planning Area)

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Renton's Shoreline Master Program (SMP)

- A new Shoreline element of the Comprehensive Plan, which contains SMP policies
- Maps showing new shoreline environment overlay designations
- A restoration plan, which contains a list of projects intended to increase the overall functioning of the shorelines
- Amendments to RMC Title IV (the development regulations), which will contain the rules and regulations of the SMP, including: use standards, public access requirements, vegetation conservation requirements, treatment of non-conforming properties, and development standards (for docks, bulkheads, setbacks, height, etc.)

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Comments

- Property specific questions and concerns may be addressed to Erika Conkling at 425-430-6578 or shoreline@rentonwa.gov
- Comment period ends at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2009

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